

REMARKS

The indication that claims 6-7 have been allowed is acknowledged with thanks.

Claims 1-5 and 8 were rejected as unpatentable over BRIEF et al. 6,205,501 in view of EJIRI 6,434,643.

The Official Action acknowledges that BRIEF et al. do not disclose or suggest the limitation in which, when the return data packet is a NAK, the functional circuit automatically transmits the IN token held therein until the return data packet is either a DATA or STALL, at which time) the circuit cancels the IN token. The Official Action relies on EJIRI for the suggestion to modify the system in BRIEF et al. to include this feature.

However, it is not believed that EJIRI discloses or suggests this feature of the rejected claims and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

EJIRI discloses a system in which PC 12 sends data to USB function (e.g., printer 15) by first sending a token packet 51 and then sending data in a data packet 52 (column 5, lines 29-40). When the PC 12 is to receive data from the USB function, PC 12 sends to the USB function a token packet 51 with a PID 61 indicating that data is allowed to be sent (this is the IN token) and upon receipt of this IN token, the USB function sends data to PC 12 in a data packet 52. When sending or receiving data packet 52 is complete, a handshake packet 53 is exchanged (column 5,

lines 41-49). The handshake packet is one of an ACK, a NAK and a STALL. EJIRI disclose that if the handshake packet 53 returned to PC 12 includes a NAK, the same data packet 52 may be resent (column 5, lines 49-60).

However, EJIRI suggests resending data packet 52, not the IN token when a NAK is received. As explained at column 5, lines 41-46, the IN token is special type of packet that includes a PID 61 that indicates that data can be sent. Data packet 52 does not include this type of PID 61 and thus there is no suggestion to resend the IN token when a NAK is received.

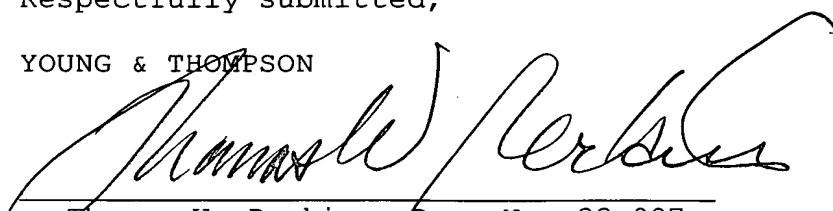
Further, there is no suggestion in the proposed combination to resend an IN token that is held in the hub 13 in EJIRI or hub 110 in BRIEF et al., or to cancel the IN token held therein when the return data packet is a DATA or STALL.

Accordingly, the claims avoid the rejection under §103.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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